



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2022

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord,

On May 26th of this year the church has scheduled and with little to no fanfare to share, the celebration the Ascension of our Lord. This celebration receives little attention and few, very few, congregations plan a worship service for that day. The sad reality is this underappreciated day is more important than most any in the church now understand.

The import of this day is that it is the culmination of God's physical presence upon this earth. What God accomplished in the incarnation of Jesus Christ, that is his birth at Christmas, has seen its apex and now Christ Jesus must return to the heavenly realm wherein God dwells in his Trinity unity. In order for the church to more fully understand and celebrate the Ascension of our Lord maybe we ought to first hear the definition of the word itself. Ascension, as defined in the "Compact Oxford English Dictionary" has these two meanings; "1 the action of ascending in status. 2 (Ascension) the ascent of Christ into heaven of the fortieth day after the resurrection."

The reason for the season was to save all who believe in Christ Jesus, and that was accomplished on a cross on Friday afternoon and through an empty tomb three days later on a Sunday morning. The promised hope was realized, the promised gift of salvation lived out and there was only one thing left. Christ Jesus needed to leave this kingdom and go to his Father's mansion in order to prepare a room/space for every believer. Thus the Ascension of our Lord needed to be lived out in the presence of the believers who would surly tell the story, including Christ Jesus' return to his Father's home.

Why is this important for us you ask? That is a great question, one deserving an honest answer. At the time of the "Fall" the relationship between God and his creation was irrevocably broken. Being created in the image of God was lost and the blessing of God, standing in need of repair. From that moment on all man could do was to look up in hope that God, who looks down, would reclaim them in the original relationship. In short, an up religion, one that sees man working to "find" or "accept" God/Jesus would always leave the collec-

tive "us" looking up and hoping to find our way home. And try as we might, there has never and will never exist a way for "us" to move up to God.

So God came down and lived as one of us; as flesh and blood, he died was buried and then was raised from the DEAD

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by God. That is the salvific plan of God. Once that portion of the plan was accomplished, Christ Jesus needed to leave this kingdom and get out of the way of the workings of the Holy Spirit (more on that next month, okay). That returning “home” of Christ Jesus is through what we call the Ascension. There is yet more to it, stick with me.

In the ascension of your Lord as you see Christ Jesus “returning” to his Father, you are invited to see yourself “returning” to your Father. In that moment God opens for you a vision of your new life as you leave this kingdom and join with your Lord and savior in God’s heavenly home. You see, the Ascension of our Lord really is about and for you. It stands as the last witness of what God has done, is doing and will continue to do for all believers in Christ Jesus. God raises them up from their fallen state and brings them unto himself. In other words in the Ascension of our Lord, you are ascending with Christ Jesus; going home!

As you read these next words please see your loved ones and yourself in that divine movement; “Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heav-

en.” (Luke 50:20-51) (If you would like to read a more extensive account of the Ascension of our Lord, read Luke’s full account in Act 1:1-11) This is where the saints on earth raise their voices and sing; “*On Our Way Rejoicing*”, for indeed the Ascension of our Lord is our ascension as well.

The Lord’s blessing to you all,
Pastor Mike

“It is Finished!”

When I first started to work on this article, I had a pretty clear idea of what I wanted to write, but as I continued to work on it, things became more and more complicated. I wrote, rewrote, re-rewrote, and so on, about something that I believe is important to share and about which I feel that I am just glimpsing the edges of understanding, maybe just a little bit. Hopefully this will all make some sense for you, but if not, I apologize as this is my best shot.

Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When he had received the drink,

Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (John 19:28-30)

Some time ago I ran across an article containing some interesting thoughts about Jesus’ last words from the cross and what they meant. I have often wondered, just what was “finished”? We all know that Jesus lived and walked on Earth for some 33 years, with about the last 3 years of His life in ministry. Was Jesus referring to the completion of His work during those final 3 years? It just seems odd to me that the “... *Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father; God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God; begotten not made, of One being with the Father; Through Him all things were made,*” yes, *that Son of God, would come to Earth in human form for 33 years, less than the blink of the eye in God’s time, spend the last 3 years of His life walking around a very localized part of a small, insignificant land in the Middle East, preaching to a few thousand of His own countrymen, healing a relative few from various diseases and ailments, be crucified and die, rise from Death, establish His Church on*

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Earth with eleven confused and uncertain followers and then go back to Heaven. Yes, Jesus' death and resurrection consisted of both a physical and a spiritual dimension, and that it was done in my place to redeem me and all humanity from our sinful and broken nature. But, was this what was "finished"? The logic of the whole story simply escapes me. At any given time, dozens of self-proclaimed messiahs were wandering around Israel and they and criminals of all sorts were being executed and crucified on a regular basis and hardly anyone paid any particular attention to this one crucifixion.

Jesus' words from the cross were probably spoken in ancient Aramaic, but the first early translations of Scripture included Greek, followed by Hebrew and Latin. Sometime last year I ran across a Crosswalks article that explained that the Greek translation of the Aramaic phrase, "It is finished" used the word "tetelestai", derived from the root word, "teleo", meaning "to bring to an end, to complete a course of action, to fully accomplish a defined goal." The word means more than just "I did it," it means "I have finally completed this entire task." But there's more here than just the verb form itself. [Tetelestai](#) is the perfect tense in Greek, and the perfect tense speaks of an action which has been accom-

plished in the past but with results continuing into the present. It's different from the past tense which looks back to an event and says, "This happened." The perfect tense adds the perspective that "This happened and it is still occurring today."

The Fall recorded in Genesis 3 describes what happened when God confronted the parties involved, Eve, Adam and the Serpent:

¹⁴ *The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ **I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.**"*

Verse 16 is essentially a declaration of war between God and Satan that lasted for thousands of years and is chronicled throughout the Old Testament. But if Jesus' words meant that His ministry, His mission on Earth, was indeed completed, finished in its entirety and Satan was finally defeated, why do we still struggle with so much evil the world? Remember the perfect tense of *Tetelestai*? In Rev. 1: 8 we read, "I am the Alpha

and the Omega," says the Lord God, "*who is and who was and who is to come*, the Almighty," and now things start to come together. Being outside of time as we understand it, in God's eyes everything that has happened will happen and everything that will happen is happening and has already happened. God knows the end of the story, He has seen it and written it for us, and He has told us that Satan has been defeated, is defeated and will always be defeated by the actions of Jesus' Life, Death and Resurrection.

"Tetelestai", "It is finished," may well be the most powerful words of all of Jesus' ministry. They are the words that turned Jesus' seeming final defeat into a declaration of complete victory over Satan, sin and Death, that literally shook the earth, split apart rocks, tore apart the curtain that separated us from God and changed human history forever.

Peace, and a Blessed Easter, to All, Today, Tomorrow and Always!

Hap



Stork's Nest Annual Diaper Drive

May 1st thru May 22nd Our Savior Lutheran will be partnering with The Stork's Nest for their annual diaper drive.

Low-income families in Marshall County can participate in The Stork's Nest incentive program that provides the opportunity to earn points for participating in health care services and educational opportunities in the community. The families learn to be responsible, make positive decisions concerning the health of themselves and their baby, and are learning about parenting through the program. Then in the Stork's Nest Store the points earned can be spent like money for needed items. At the present time approximately 400 families are using the Nest. We can help fill the need for diapers and wipes, which are the most requested items. The highest need is for diapers in size 4, 5 and 6.

We will be collecting diapers, wipes and cash donations from May 1st to May 24th. Thanks in advance for continuing to support such a great event.

Service & Mission

Flowers are significant to our worship experience. They remind us of God's beautiful creation and care for this world. Please consider signing up and paying for flowers one or more times this year. It is an opportunity to celebrate a significant event in your lives, memorialize a loved one, or give glory to God.

On the Flower Chart, write your name and a memo as to its significance to you. Carol Fuller can then include it in the bulletin.

Our congregation has a standing order with HyVee each week. Donors only need to write a check for \$40 to Our Savior Lutheran Church with the memo "flowers" and place it in the offering or drop it off at the office. You are to take the flowers with you after the service. It is important that you leave the glass flower vases from the altar. You may use vases in the kitchen to transport the bouquets to your home or future destination. Thank you for signing up and providing flowers for our worship service!



Wednesday
Wonders

We will meet Wednesday, May 18th in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am.

All are invited to attend for a time of conversation and treats.

Shirley Gregor to furnish treats.

House of Compassion Request

In an effort to defray the quickly rising costs of the food HOC purchases for the evening meals, they will not be purchasing desserts or frozen cookies as they have in the past. They are reaching out to the local churches for help. They are requesting if there is anyone you would want to make some home-made goodies for the meals to fill this need. You can make anything you would like: cookies, bars, cupcakes, cakes or desserts. And in whatever quantity you want. Then drop them off at HOC which is open Mon –Thurs, 10am-12pm and 1-4:30 pm. Any questions or if you need help delivering your goodies please contact Barb Rasmussen, 641-691-0184.

Thanks, Service & Mission

Second Quarter Giving Jug (April, May, June)

Clean Water, for Ghana, Africa has been chosen as our second quarter giving jug recipient. Sherry Kubalsky, a former OSL member, and Children's book author was in church February promoting this worthy cause. She has written 2 books and all the profits and royalties from her books go directly to Ghana, helping to build wells in areas with severe clean water shortages. Currently children five and younger are drinking contaminated water and dying. The water is there, they just need the means to get to it. GlobeServe Ministries, the program the proceeds are donated through, builds the freshwater well in an area with the need and continues to maintain it even after the project is complete. One well serves about 500 people. Every donation counts, as one well can cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000. The well installations also provide the opportunity to spread the Christian Gospel, a mission that Kubalsky considers a personal passion. While over there, they can also talk about the love of Jesus Christ and help build churches.

Barb Rasmussen
Service & Mission

Thank You

We appreciate and thank everyone who remembered us after the passing of my mother, Arla Mae Discher. We received many beautiful cards, memorials, calls, prayers, emails and text messages of sympathy from many of you. Mom always loved worshipping with us at Our Savior Lutheran and enjoyed fellowship time with our friendly members. Most recently she was able to attend the baptism of her great grandchild, Christmas Eve service, caroling party and Elvis Concert. Beautiful memories now.

Danny and Tina Nelson

Dear Our Savior friends,

Thank you to all who worked together to put Easter Sunday's worship service on YouTube. Nancy and I watched the entire service on our TV last evening.

We appreciated the order of service on the screen. We felt that we were in the in the congregation as we sat on our sofa.

Well done! Keep up the great work!

Larry & Nancy Park



Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the strong, loving women in your life. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we see moms through their journey to build the brightest future for their children.

We see moms turning to LSI Behavioral Health Intervention Services to ensure their child is receiving the coping skills and behavioral supports they need to thrive. In our Early Childhood Services, we see first-time moms who are eager to join our parenting education classes and support groups. In 2021, LSI's Early Childhood programs provided support to nearly 500 families of young children. We are so inspired to hear their stories and see their hard work pay off as they raise our next generation.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember how many Iowa moms are being empowered because of your support. If you are looking for a way to honor a mother in your life this year, please consider making a gift in her name to LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or

563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

Education for Every Parent

As a parent educator for LSI, Lindsay spent every day visiting families in their homes and teaching parents how to meet their child's developmental needs and help them thrive.

When she left LSI and welcomed her new son, Patrick, into the world, Lindsay wanted some extra support for her family. And she knew just where to turn.

LSI Early Childhood Services provide evidence-based curriculum that builds on each family's individual strengths and ensures they have the education and resources they need to achieve their personal goals and keep kids on track with their developmental milestones.

Each week, Lindsay was able to meet with her LSI parent ed-

ucator, Amy, and get a fresh perspective on the best ways to help her son succeed. Together, they worked on setting nutrition goals for Patrick, and Lindsay is now getting ready to help her son learn to walk and talk.

For years, Lindsay was able to educate and empower Iowa families through LSI Early Childhood Services. Now, she gets to experience the programming from the other side, and it's given her a new outlook on how valuable the education and resources are to parents of young children.

"I want to thank everyone who has supported LSI," Lindsay says. "This programming is for everyone. Just having the opportunity for in-home visiting is awesome. I want to thank everybody for donating because I love this program."



The Emergency Food Box has a new address:

107 N. 1st St.

The Food Box continues to serve Marshall County families needing food assistance and is in need of the following food items: any kind of juices--apple, grape, orange, as well as cereals, canned vegetables, canned soups, peanut butter and boxed skillet meals.

Food items or monetary (check/cash) donations may be brought to the EFB (109 S. 3rd St.) Monday through Thursday afternoon, 1:30-4:30 OR mailed to EFB, P.O. Box 391, Marshalltown, IA 50158. Please make checks payable to: *Emergency Food Box*. Donated funds are used to buy food items from the Food Bank of Iowa and locally.

If you want to consider volunteering at the Food Box, know that they have many different types of opportunities and are very flexible in arranging times to fit your schedule! Contact:
Cindy, (641) 752-4868.

THE WEATHER IS CHANGING NEW ITEMS NEEDED

**Caring Center
8 W Church St
Mon. & Wed. 10-1**

The Caring Center is located at 8 West Church . We still have the same days and hours. Monday & Wednesday from 10 AM to 1 PM for clients. Donations are from 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Currently we have no mens jeans size 29, 30 or 32. Almost out of size 34 and 36. Mens shoes are in short supply.

Donna



We have started dominoes once again. The first and third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. Come join us for fellowship and some laughs.

MAY BIRTHDAYS!

Tim Herschberger	05/02
Meradean Gifford	05/04
Floyd Harthun	05/06
Russ Pape	05/06
Austin Case	05/12
Lane Larson	05/13
Ann Reinberg	05/14
Joel De Jong	05/14
Larry Kester	05/15
Darlene Hanke	05/18
Dave Luthro	05/18
Kent De Jong	05/19
Emily DeMonte	05/19
Karen Dougherty	05/22
Nancy Sills	05/22
Danny Nelson	05/24
Joanna Ruddick	05/27
Ardis Winters	05/28
Barb Behrends	05/28
Brad Sease	05/29
Sandy Wise	05/30

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS!

Layken Eastman	05/13
Carson De Jong	05/15
Brooke De Jong	05/14
Clayton Ruddick	05/17

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES!

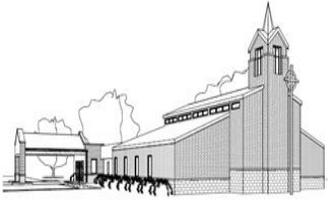
Larry & Marlene Kester	05/07
Jeff & Dawn Johnston	05/14
Danny & Tina Nelson	05/17
Joe & Felicia Duffy	05/29
Mike & Kathy Massa	05/31



Our Savior Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet
as of 03/31/2022

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
Assets		
1000	Checking	\$47,406.37
1005	Debit Card Account	\$518.36
1007	Thrivent Fixed Settlement Option	\$14,654.94
1010	Fern Thompson Scholarship	\$49,678.66
Total Assets		\$112,258.33
Liabilities		
2600	Federal Withholding Taxes Payable	\$381.96
2602	State Withholding Taxes Payable	\$120.19
2604	Social Security Withholding	\$400.08
2606	Medicare Withholding	\$92.36
Total Liabilities		\$994.59
Equity		
3000	General Fund - Fund Balance	\$6,460.92
3100	Building Fund - Fund Balance	\$14,653.55
3101	Ice Cream Social Fund Balance	\$1,496.56
3102	Fellowship Fund Balance	\$851.50
3103	Memorial Fund Balance	\$15,868.34
3104	Bible Fund Balance	\$100.00
3105	Thrivent Choice Dollars Fund Balance	\$5,199.54
3108	Riverside Scholarship Fund Balance	\$221.75
3109	Alter Flowers Fund Balance	\$921.15
3110	Miscellaneous / Clearing Fund Balance	\$-98.18
3111	Fern Thompson Scholarship Fund Balance	\$49,678.66
3112	Bonnie Riemenschneider Fund Balance	\$14,654.94
3113	Quarter 1 Giving Jug Fund Balance	\$505.01
3117	Lenten Offering Fund Balance	\$600.00
3118	Lawnmower Replacement Fund Balance	\$150.00
Total Equity		\$111,263.74
Total Liabilities + Total Equity		\$112,258.33

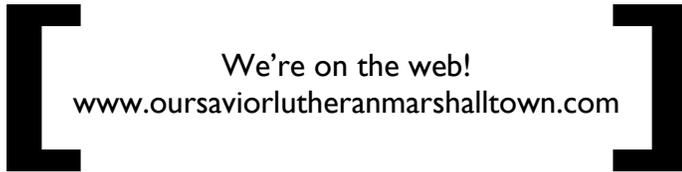
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Worship 11:30 am CGPE Sunday School 12:30 pm CGPE Church Service	2	3 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 1:00 pm Dominoes	4 5:30 pm Adult Study	5 12:00 pm Optimist Pastor Mike 6:30 pm Danny Nelson—LOS 7:00 pm CGPE Bible Study	6 Church Office Closed	7 7:00 pm CGPE Church gathering
8 9:00 am Worship 11:30 am CGPE Sunday School 12:30 pm CGPE Church Service	9	10 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 1:30 pm Women's Study Group 5:00 pm Executive Mitg.	11 5:30 pm Adult Study	12 10:00 Pastor's Conference—Elim 7:00 pm CGPE Bible Study	13 Church Office Closed	14 7:00 pm CGPE Church gathering
15 9:00 am Worship 11:30 am CGPE Sunday School 12:30 pm CGPE Church Service	16	17 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 1:00 pm Dominoes	18 9:30 am Wednes- day Wonders 5:30 pm Adult Study Newsletter Articles due	19 12:00 pm Optimist Pastor Mike 7:00 pm CGPE Bible Study	20 Church Office Closed	21 7:00 pm CGPE Church gathering
22 9:00 am Worship Fellowship Hall used all afternoon	23	24 8:30 am Men's Bible Study	25 5:30 pm Adult Study	26 12:00 pm Optimist Pastor Mike 7:00 pm CGPE Bible Study	27 Church Office Closed	28 7:00 pm CGPE Church gathering
29 9:00 am Worship 11:30 am CGPE Sunday School 12:30 pm CGPE Church Service	30	31 8:30 am Men's Bible Study	<i>May 2022</i>			



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Michael Herschberger
3001 South Sixth Street
Marshalltown, IA. 50158
Phone: 641-753-4108
Email: oslpastor@outlook.com

Address Service Requested



We're on the web!
www.oursaviorlutheranmarshalltown.com

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 AM Worship

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Secretary: Carol Fuller
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Office: 753-4108

Email:
oslmtown@outlook.com



2022